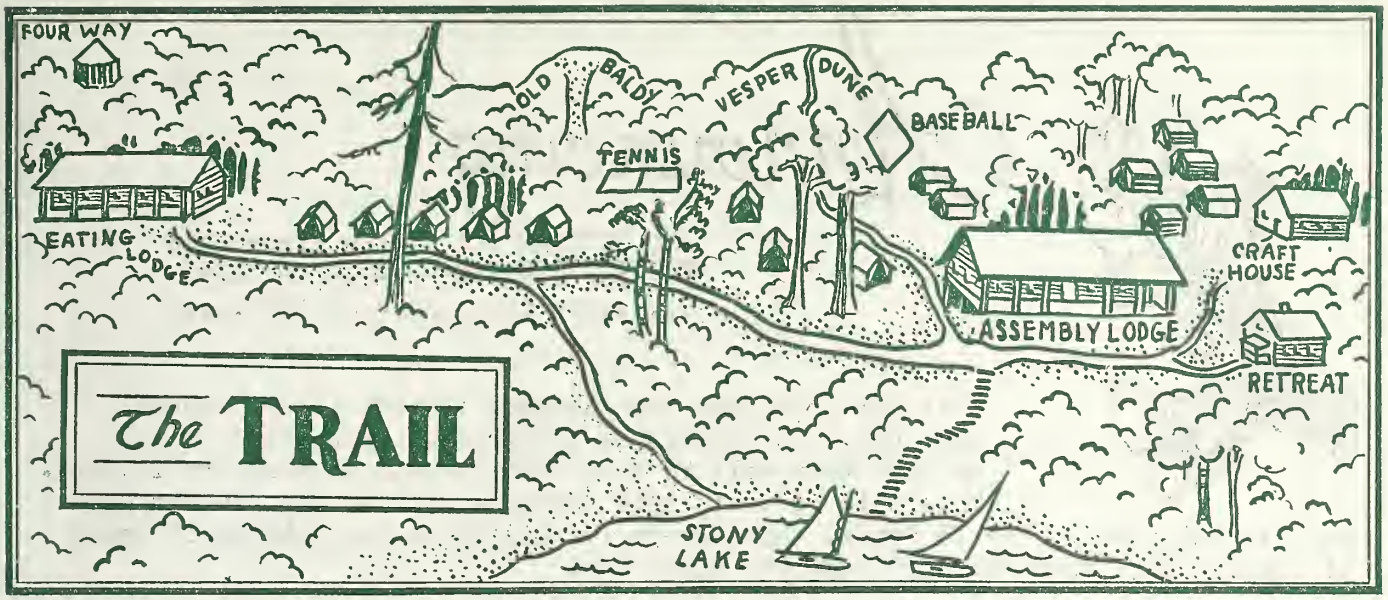

The TRAIL

Official Newsletter of the Miniwanca Younger Boys and Pre-Senior Camps

THE AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION, 3930 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis 8, Mo.

APRIL 1946

BLAZING THE TRAIL

"OK gang, time to hit THE TRAIL together", was a happy and favorite cry in the early days of our YB Camp, because the YB Eating Lodge wasn't built until 1936 and the entire camp followed THE TRAIL to and from the Main Unit on Lake Michigan three times a day to get their meals. Some of us also recall the historic day that small group of pioneer campers blazed THE TRAIL from the Stockade straight through to Lake Michigan...and stood atop that big dune overlooking the shimmering lake like DeSoto and his conquering heroes of old. That's why this little newsletter is called THE TRAIL...because the first campers at Miniwanca in 1930 had so much fun tramping trails...establishing THE TRAIL to the Eating Lodge, to Lake Michigan, to Chapel Dune, and even from one tent to another.

Hundreds of Founder fellows have learned much about following THE TRAIL of life, from the hours they spent walking the trails at Miniwanca with their leaders. One of the significant days in our camp history was the Sunday we hiked up the newly made trail to dedicate Chapel Dune. The majesty of the trees made the chapel, because there were only a few unfinished boards on which to sit, and a large rough-hewn Cross in the center front. The Cross will always be the symbol of a Christian because Jesus taught us that His Way is the Way of the Cross. In this season of Lent...of Spring and reawakening, leading up to Easter...all Christian boys and girls, and men and women everywhere are retraveling THE TRAIL that took Jesus from Bethlehem, via Nazareth, on to Jerusalem. As it is written, "Jesus set his face like a flint toward Jerusalem." He steadfastly stayed on THE TRAIL... ever demonstrating as he walked along through life, the way we should live.

Since Jesus has lead the way...marking the milestones to joyous living...it is up to each one of us to take up his Cross and faithfully follow THE TRAIL He has blazed for us. As we tread the city streets now...and dream of hitting THE TRAIL to Miniwanca in a few weeks...let's keep on growing as we go "in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man."

- GUS A. GRUENEWALD

Announcing

JOE WHITWAM will again direct the Younger Boy and Pre-Senior Camps .....for the summer of 1946.....

It's our privilege and pleasure to officially announce that Joe w ill return as YB Director this season - and we know that will be good news to both campers and leaders. This will be Joe's 24th straight year in the Founder Camps, and his 4th year on the YB Staff. With Joe's leadership we know the swell group of leaders will make the 1946 camp the best ever!

And here's a letter from our friend Joe ...

HI GANG -

It was a great summer in 1945 and greetings to that fine bunch of 159 campers and 29 leaders from 19 states. Every one of you were tops and it was a real pleasure to work with you. Thrilling memories of 1945 crowd one upon another.

Remember! The red hot competition between the tribes as they fought for top rank all the way down to the closing days. Congratulations to the Sioux, Creeks, and Clouds. And a big pat on the back to all of the tribes for the sportsmanship and effort right down to the final wire.

Remember! The celebrity that visited early in camp. He turned out to be Dr. I. Q. alias Rawlins Horlacher introducing the Miniwanca bucks. The big Fourth of July program and the fine waterfront program under Jack Noon. Will you ever forget Jack King and Mel Swyers and their thrilling rescue? The big fights and "Doc" Davis presents. They were real bouts and it was a dandy show.

Remember! Ed. Clark and his plays and the excellent work of the actors. Jack Leming at the Craft House with all of the work turned out there. Yes, the totem pole went up too. The County Fair and all of the big concessions.

Remember! The interesting class work. That most worthwhile period in Ideals. The leadership of Wadjepi, Kodaya, Dad Waite, Jack Noon, Dave Armington, Frank Guthrie and all of the other leaders.

Remember! The Vesper Hour and the message from the heart of each leader as he took his turn as the speaker. The tent group and all of the fun and fellowship of living together.

Yes, 1945 was a grand year. 1946 will be even better with many new things planned for a greater camping season. Plan now to be back in 46. I'll be seeing you.

Founderly yours,

Joe Whitwam

And Dad Waite wants to know about "YOUR PORTRAIT"

Not a posed photograph when you did your best to look your prettiest, but a picture of yourself when exposed to the candid camera of Miniwanca. Are you lopsided or fourfold? Are you angular or well-rounded? How fully do you know yourself? What's your attitude toward the worth-whiles in everyday living? Can you hold your own in the game of life?

Those are some of the questions Camp Miniwanca helps you answer. Why not adventure more fully in sizing yourself up? It will be fun to chat with you again in camp this summer!

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And here's a LETTER FROM ED. CLARK at the University of Richmond, Virginia...

HIYA FELLOWS,

Now that we're all back in school - do you ever get time to think back about camp? Boy, it was fun. Remember the 4th of July celebration, and County Fair Day? And those fights in the Square Gardens? And the Little Point Sable Hike (cold but fun). But golly, we can't leave out church and vespers. We had some mighty pretty sunsets, didn't we? Remember the final banquet? I sure hated to see it come, but here school is almost over and we're almost back on the sand-dunes again. I think, though, that we owe Joe a big thanks for the swell job he did for us last summer - because it was swell - and how happy we all are that he's coming back this summer. So long for now - see you at Miniwanca soon - in June. - ED

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And DIRECT FROM CAMP MINIWANCA is a special winter dispatch from JIM "Squid" ORWIG

who has been spending the winter months at Maplecrest Cottage, after his strenuous war experiences with the 10th Mountain Ski Troops in Italy. Jim will be back for his 12th year in the Younger Boys Camp.

HI FOUNDERS,

Winter is over now at Miniwanca. I did my last skiing on Vesper Dune three weeks ago. The last ice came down the creek from Stony Lake several days ago, and down on the beach the wreckage of the last great icebergs and extensive ice fields is rotting away in the warm sun at the water's edge. Even the maple sugar season is almost over, and we managed to put up ten gallons from the camp maples.

I'll never forget this winter for I have fulfilled a dream by proxy which every Founder has had from time to time, that of seeing the camp in winter. It is an entirely different world. The trees are bare, exposing the outlines of the dune terrain, and the crest of "Old Baldy" is like that of a snow-capped peak. Stony's mild blue waters are frozen over a foot thick and snow is deep on it. In the woods and along the trails the drifts are deep and the snow hangs heavily in the pine and hemlock. Most striking of all is the Lake Michigan beachfront, where range after range of towering icebergs are built up with each storm and icepack fields stretch often to the horizon. Yes, Miniwanca in winter is a strange sight with all the buildings sealed and silent in the dead of winter, with nothing to disturb the mantle of snow but the tracks of deer, fox, and small wild game. And I'd like to tell you more - but I guess I will this summer when I'll be seeing you all again, after four years camping with my Uncle Sam in various uncomfortable parts of the world. - JIM

FORMER DIRECTOR OF YB CAMP JOINS AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION STAFF

Gus A. Gruenewald, who was a leader in the first Younger Boys Camp in 1930, and directed the unit from 1931 through 1935, was voted a place on the Staff of the American Youth Foundation at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees in January. Gus was the Boys' Work Secretary of the South Side Branch of the St. Louis YMCA for nearly seven years, after graduating from Elmhurst College, in Elmhurst, Illinois in 1933. In 1942 he joined the U. S. Navy and served for thirty-eight months in Naval Aviation administration. First he was Executive Officer of the United States Naval Flight Preparatory School at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y., and later was Assistant to the Executive Officer at the big U. S. Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Maryland. Gus will help Wadjepi in the business administration of the camps, but will always have a big place in his heart for the YB unit. He spent nine summers on the sand-dunes of Miniwanca - graduating in the Older Boys Dunes Class of 1930 - and we all welcome him back to camp this summer.

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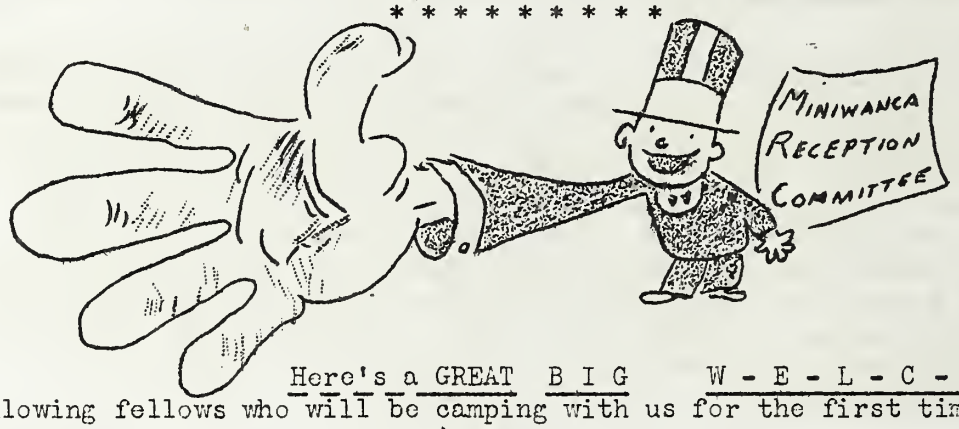

Here's a GREAT B I G W - E - L - C - O - M - E to the following fellows who will be camping with us for the first time in 1946. (There may be others before camp time).

ABBOTT, Rudyard Carl
ABBOTT, James Akers
ADAIR, James Ross
ALBON, Ralph
ALLENSWORTH, David
ARZT, Franz
BALTZER, Bob A.
BERNERO, Tommy
BICHAN, Robert Warner
BIRNBAUM, Robert
BOATWRIGHT, Bryant
BRANDON, Charles
BRECKENRIDGE, Jimmy
CHAPIN, John N. Jr.
CLEAVER, Bruce H.
CLENDENEN, Robert E.
COLEMAN, David R.
COURTENAY, Walter R. Jr.
CRAIG, John Earl II
DAVIS, Dean Arlen
EXMAN, Frank Walker
EXMAN, Wallace
EVANS, James W.
FRUIT, Richard
GLASS, Robert L.
GREISEL, Bernard
GRINNELL, David Gilkey
HARDESTY, Robert L.
HEIDEMAN, Alvah Gerrit Jr.
HEIDEMAN, John Paul
HEISEY, Fulton
HEISEY, George
HENGES, Ronald E.
HENGES, Lynn R.
HORN, Wilmer David
HUGHES, H. Arthur
HUGHES, Robert W.
HUNTINGTON, Donald E. Jr.
JACOBY, Edward George Jr.
JOHNSON, Robert E.
JUSTUS, Bert W.
KELLER, Henry Stephen
KELLY, Robert Hine
KERR, Jay Sanford
KRUMMENACHER, Bruce
KRUMMENACHER, Hanford Loy
KUESTER, Donald
LANDMAN, Robert J.
LONGSTREET, Bill
MATHEWS, Wayne Stanley
MAY, Ronald Walker
MC ADAM, Gregor
MAC CARTHY, William
MC DONALD, James Ginn
MC DONALD, Robert Charles
MC LAIN, Paul David
MEAD, C. Alden
MEAD, William B.
METCALF, Frederic T. Jr.
MILL, William Blow Jr.
MINOR, John Wald
NUGENT, George Stephen
POPE, Richard A.
PULLEN, Jewell Blake Jr.
RODGERS, Robert B.
ROHRBAUGH, Malcolm
RUSSELL, David Morlock
SCHAEPERKOETTER, Robert Louis
SCHLATTER, Jack
SIEGERT, Rudy B.
SMUTZ, Robert Allen
STUDT, John Woodring
WALTERS, Ray
WHEELER, Arville Vance
WHEELER, Charles Wesley
WILDMAN, Irvin C. Jr.
WILLIAMSON, Charles A. Jr.

...and with the rest of the fellows being "old-timers" we'll have another full camp of one hundred and sixty boys.

D O Y O U R E M E M B E R ? ? - these 1945 HEADLINES FROM THE DUNES DISPATCH?5

June 20, 1945 - WELCOME TO MINIWANCA

June 24, 1945 - CELEBRITY VISITS MINIWANCA

July 2, 1945 - GREAT DAY AHEAD THE 4th

July 9, 1945 - MONDAY HIKE TO POINT SABLE

July 14, 1945 - FIGHTERS ARE READY

July 16, 1945 - CHAMPIONS! - Penwell, Harrison, Shawver & Beatty

July 25, 1945 - ONSIDA NATION WINS - Sioux, Creeks, Clouds Tribal Winners - To old-timers these headlines bring back many happy memories...and to you new campers - well, you can get an idea of what good times are in store for you at Camp Miniwanca this summer. And, of course, the Director has lots of new tricks up his sleeve and even the hardened old campers couldn't guess what they are. That's one of the fine features of Miniwanca - something new and different always.

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HERE ARE A NUMBER OF THINGS WHICH YOU WILL WANT TO

S H A R E W I T H Y O U R P A R E N T S !!

First, about duffel bags and camp trunks or lockers. A little later on full information will be sent to parents regarding your camp clothes and equipment. Most parents already have the information. Some like to use duffel bags; others, old suitcases, and still others prefer small flat trunks. In a number of cases, parents have had made a stout plain wooden box, with hinges and padlock, and this is good, if lumber can be obtained. Big wardrobe trunks should NEVER be shipped to camp. It is best to have a trunk that will slip under a cot - the height of which should not be more than $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches - length does not matter.

Secondly, we would like to suggest the use of laundry mailing boxes. We expect the laundry situation in Muskegon still to be acute this season. For the past several years parents have been mailing a box of fresh laundry each week, and the camper each week returns a box of soiled clothes. To keep this exchange working on schedule, there really should be two laundry mailing boxes for a family. This plan also helps, in that it is not necessary to ship all of your clothes to camp at the start of the camping period. Moreover, it is the safest and surest way to ship laundry and make sure the camper has clean clothes. And at the close of camp (when there is oftimes a shortage of wrapping paper and twine) it is the best way we know of to insure that all clothes get home, since boys sometimes become careless in tying their bundles.

Thirdly, a word about camper insurance. This plan has been in operation for several years and we are ready again to give it our hearty approval. The cost is low, $5.00 for the five week camping term, with a 48 hour travel coverage, both ways, and it covers trips away from camp under camp direction. The limit of reimbursement is $250 per accident, $100 for sickness, and $500 for accidental death. No one anticipates accidents or sickness and the Camp Miniwanca health and safety record is an enviable one, and we shall do everything in our power to keep it so. Coverage of this kind, however, is very desirable protection. Full details will be sent later, including the name and address of the insuring company to which all applications should be sent.

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Fourthly, concerning TRAVEL PLANS, it is a bit early to discuss details. Full information is being sought from the various railroads, bus companies, and steamship lines, and complete details regarding travel will later be sent to the parents of all registered campers. It is anticipated that our travel plans will be very much as they have been during the past three summers for the junior camps. Perhaps, with gas rationing off, more parents will be driving their children to camp.

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B E S U R E T O B R I N G

YOUR MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. We always have a lot of fun in our tents, in the Council Circle, at the banquets, etc....so help us get up a good little orchestra.

AND YOUR COMIC COSTUMES, for the stunt nights, masquerades, or what have you. And if there is any HOBBY MATERIAL you might want to work on at camp, pack it up and bring it along with you.

AND BOOKS AND MAGAZINES. We hope to have hundreds of books from the Michigan State Library again, but probably you have several books which you've enjoyed reading and would like to add to the camp library for the summer, so that other boys can enjoy them too. Bring some old copies of TIME, LIFE, POPULAR MECHANICS, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, BOYS LIFE and other good magazines you may have - which would be a fine addition to the camp library.

AND FISHING TACKLE - just how good a fisherman are you? Miniwanca boys caught many fish last summer. And there are big fellows in Stony Lake if you are good enough to land them. You can fish during the "interest groups" period and have a real fish fry right out in the open. AND REMEMBER how we caught 150 pounds of fish the first time the 1200 foot net was put down in Lake Michigan? So come on you fishermen - let's try for a nice catch of big fat perch.

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LURE US ON

Remember Kodaya's fine song? Kodaya will be back to help in leading our songs, and with the help of Ed, Clark and other leaders Miniwanca will uphold the fine reputation it has of being "a singing camp". And we're hoping the 1946 CAMPER-CHOIR will even be better than the 1945 choir. And now the words to LURE US ON...

God of the waters,
God of the skies,
Show us Thy Beauty;
Open our eyes.

God of all wisdom,
God of all grace,
Humbly we seek Thee
Seeking Thy Face.

God of the stillness,
God of the storm,
Lead us in duty;
Keep us in form.

God of the darkness,
God of the dawn,
Into Thy Beauty
Lure us on.

- KODAYA

and finally I - N - T - R - O - D - U - C - I - N - G

some of the YB Leaders who hope to get back this summer ..... for the 17th Season of the Younger Boys Camp at Miniwanca - (there will be some cancellation and some additions, of course, but here's the line-up as it looks today, and believe you me, this team of leaders is the strongest we've evor had in YB.)

BOB BILLET, outstanding engineering student from the University of Rochester will be back as a leader after having been away since 1941. He's a five year camper at Miniwanca...GEORGE C. BROWN III is plugging away at William Jewel College in Liberty, Missouri but will be at camp with bells on...JOE BUCKLES will find his way back to Stony Lake from Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas...LT. RAY BUDDE, USNR says he will make sure his Destroyer Escort #172, the USS COOVER, docks in time for him to hit the trail to Miniwanca...and he ought to have some swell stories for us at the Council Circle...DICK CAVE, Founder Graduate of 1939, will come down from Minneapolis, after a five year's absence...ED. CLARK, University of Richmond, Virginia has created a real place for himself in the Founder Camps, and will be back to head up the Christian Ideals Department...And all the way from Iceland comes INGVI GRITAR to bring an international touch to our Staff...Ingvi came to Older Boys Camp last summer from Berea College, and we know he will add a lot to the YB Camp...DICK HAMLIN, A Pharmacist Mate for Uncle Sam at present, also plans on being with us all summer before returning to George Williams College this Fall....A new face will be JACK HIRES, 6 ft. 2 in. engineer from North Carolina who comes to Miniwanca after thirteen months overseas duty...JIM HILLS, a 1942 OB Camper comes all the way from the University of Southern California to be with us...and you fellows interested in aviation will be glad to swap yarns with Jim because he has almost 1100 hours flying time, including P-51 Mustangs and combat in B-24 Liberators... Another new face will be BOB JAY from Worthington, Ohio whose Leader Information Blank tells us he can do a lot of things well...The Co-Director of the Darer Unit in 1942, ESTON MATHEWS, who was wounded and has recovered nicely, will be on deck again...DON MORLEY, a four year camper, hopes Uncle Sam will let him out of the Army by camp time so he can hike over to camp from his home in Birmingham, Michigan... DAVE NICHOLSON of Akron, Ohio also is looking forward to returning...and JIM "Squid" ORWIG will be the Director of the Pre-Senior section and also be in charge of the Boatcraft Department...DICK PFOST, who is still in Germany, is making plans to return to Miniwanca after having been away since 1942...and old, reliable DON PIERCE with his chest full of medals, returns to serve as Dockman again, after three years with Uncle Sam's Army in Europe...JOHNNY PRIEHS just can't wait until he can head for the camp on the lakes...LT. RALPH QUEAL, USA, will be back to head up the Aquatic Department after some thrilling experiences in the Army Air Corps...LT. KEN REDLIN, United States Marine Corps, is out of the service and back at Ripon College and will be on hand at camp...LT. JIM RICHARDS, who has been in YB and OG on and off since 1935 will scoot around the lake from Lawrence College in Appleton, Wisconsin to tell us about his experience as a pilot for Uncle Sam...BRUCE TANNER, a YB leader in 1943 and an OB graduate in 1944, will be back...and TOM WILEY, Ohio State University Junior will be in there pitching too...and a very special addition to our 1946 YB Leadership Staff will be RAY "Dean" DOUBLES of Richmond, Virginia who will teach in the Christian Ideals Department.

There they are...AND WITH A BUNCH OF CAMPERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN ALL THAT MINIWANCA STANDS FOR...1946 will be a banner year. So, come on you campers from twenty states, get your camp clothes packed, and we'll be seeing you down by the docks on Wednesday, the 19th of June.

W A D J E P I
Director, American Youth Foundation.

P.S. This may be the campers' big year to beat the leaders in the annual softball game. I'm the umpire, you know, so come on campers give me a good game to umpire!

Is Your Address Correct?

One of the biggest problems we have in the Founder Office is to keep the names and addresses of thousands of Founder Campers complete and UP-TO-DATE.

Please take a minute and drop us a penny post-card IF there is a mistake in your address below. Thank You!

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3930 Lindell Boulevard
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Camp Miniwanca for Boys

* * * ONE OF THE FOURFOLD LIFE CAMPS * * *

19 JUNE to 24 JULY, 1946
near...Shelby, Michigan.

... on Lake Michigan and Stony Lake and Stony Creek ...
... in the wooded sand dunes of Michigan ...